



Promoting Early Childhood

Wisconsin's Collaborative Leadership Forum **CONFERENCE**

March 3-5, 2020
KI Convention Center, Green Bay, WI



Wisconsin Early Childhood
Collaborating Partners

Conference Room Map



Conference Website:

<https://dpi.wi.gov/early-childhood/pec-conference>



Promoting Early Childhood (PEC) 2020 Developmentally

The 2020 [Promoting Early Childhood Conference](#) is an Early Childhood Collaborative Event in its 17th year sponsored by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

Conference Goals:

To provide opportunities for professionals to network and learn ways to promote and implement play and developmentally appropriate practices in the early care and education field.

Featuring Keynote Presenter: Susan MacDonald, MEd



Susan MacDonald is passionate about inspiring positive change in the early childhood field. Her expertise is reflected in her professional speaking, coaching and her books, *Inspiring Early Childhood Leadership* and *Inspiring Professional Growth*. Susan is the founder of Inspiring New Perspectives, a consultancy focused on empowering educators and school leaders to create

programs that deeply respect and nurture the possibilities that lie within each child, parent, and teacher. Susan has been developing and delivering inspirational courses and workshops for over 25 years. Her background includes director of a Reggio inspired preschool program, adjunct faculty at Lesley University and Wheelock College and Commonwealth of Massachusetts licensing supervisor. Susan holds a Master's degree in Instructional Design, and multiple professional coaching certifications. She is the past president of Boston Area Reggio Inspired Network and past vice president of the Massachusetts Association for the Education of Young Children.

Main Conference Agenda at a Glance

<i>Time</i>	<i>Wednesday, March 4, 2020</i>	<i>Location</i>
8:00-9:00	Registration <i>Hot Breakfast Buffet: Scrambled Eggs, Potatoes & Bacon</i> <i>Vegetarian: Oatmeal, Brown Sugar, Raisins, Honey & Yogurt</i>	Ballroom A
9:00-9:15	Conference Orientation: Welcome and Opening <i>Sherry W. Kimball, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction</i>	Ballroom A
9:15-10:45	Keynote Presentation: For the Love of Children! Why Adult Development Matters <i>Susan MacDonald, MEd, Inspiring New Perspectives</i>	Ballroom A
10:45-11:00	Break (coffee & tea stations)	
11:00-11:30	WI DPI State Superintendent: Remarks <i>Carolyn Stanford Taylor, State Superintendent</i> <i>Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction</i>	Ballroom A
11:30-12:30	Lunch <i>Marinara Chicken over Penne/Garlic Breadstick</i> <i>Vegetarian: Pasta Primavera</i> Book Signing with Susan MacDonald (12:00)	Meeting Room B
12:00-5:00	Exhibits Open Courage to Explore & PlaySpace Learning Exhibit Open	Ballroom A Meeting Room 7
12:30-1:45 Breakout Sessions	Key Note Break Out <i>Susan MacDonald, MEd, Inspiring New Perspectives</i>	Ballroom A
	Articulating DAP Beyond a Handout <i>Lisa Jones, 4-C Madison</i>	Meeting Room 1

<i>Time</i>	<i>Wednesday, March 4, 2020</i>	<i>Location</i>
12:30-1:45 Breakout Sessions	Creating a Transformational Partnership Between a Wisconsin School District and a Theoretically-Based Early Childhood Curriculum: Implementation, Collaboration, and Data-Driven Decision Making <i>Leslie Pekarek, Gillett School District</i>	Meeting Room 2
	Cultural Humility as a Path To Equity <i>Jenna Finley, The Registry</i>	Meeting Room 3
	Learning Continue AT Home: Building Partnerships With Families <i>Bev Schumacher, Learning Props</i>	Meeting Room 4
	You Gotta Have Friends: Using Peer Mediated Strategies to Support the Development of Friendship <i>Julie Betchkal, WI Alliance for Infant Mental Health</i> <i>Carissa Kusilek, Baldwin-Woodville School District</i>	Meeting Room 5AB
	Play Based Learning Approaches <i>Katie Robertson, West Allis West Milwaukee School District</i>	Meeting Room 6AB
1:45-2:00	Break (no snack)	
2:00-3:15 Caucus Connections (By Role)	Technical Assistance (Consultants, Coaches, State Personnel) <i>Sherry W. Kimball, DPI, Jess Nichols, DPI</i>	Meeting Room 1
	Teachers (Child Care, Head Start, 4K, 5K, First Grade, etc.) <i>Tiffany Swain, CESA 5, Sherry Stuart, DCF</i>	Ballroom A
	Special Education <i>Jenny Bibler, DPI & Michelle Ogorek, CESA 1</i>	Meeting Room 5AB
	Administrators (Coordinators, Directors, Principals, etc.) <i>Jennie Mauer, WI Head Start Association, Joanna Lickel, CESA 5</i>	Meeting Room 6AB
3:15-3:30	Break (no snack)	

Time	Wednesday, March 4, 2020	Location
3:30-4:45 Breakout Sessions	Universal Design for Learning in Early Childhood Settings <i>Sue Erickson, CESA 12</i> <i>Catherine Daentl, CESA 5</i>	Meeting Room 1
	Unlock the Mystery of Registry Training and Training Approval <i>Christine Moldenhauer, The Registry</i>	Meeting Room 2
	Science: It's All About the Wondering! <i>Dr. Jennifer Koel, Waukesha County Technical College</i>	Meeting Room 3
	Trauma Informed Practices: Fostering a Child's Resilience Through Proactive Approaches <i>Sara Jane Lee, Stoughton Areas School District</i>	Meeting Room 4
	Stepping Back: Using Video and Photos to Document Children's Learning <i>Carol Spoehr, One City Schools</i>	Meeting Room 5A
3:30-4:45 Breakout Sessions	Supporting Families with Intention: Using the PIWI Model to Promote Responsive Relationships <i>Amber Carlsrud, Barron Area School District</i> <i>Julie Betchkal, WI Alliance for Infant Mental Health</i>	Meeting Room 5B
	Play-Based Kindergarten <i>Sherrie Stanczyk, Sara Fischer & Karen Salienko, Stevens Point Public School District</i>	Meeting Room 6AB
4:45-5:45 Topical Tapas	Topical Tapas: <i>Family Involvement</i> <i>Assessment</i> <i>DAP from birth-K5!</i> <i>Outdoor education</i> <i>Social-Emotional Learning</i> <i>Equitable & Inclusive Education</i> <i>Practice-Based Coaching</i> <i>WECCP Northwest Region</i> <i>WECCP Northeast Region</i> <i>WECCP Southern Region</i>	Hotel Atrium

<i>Time</i>	<i>Thursday, March 5, 2020</i>	<i>Location</i>
8:00-9:00	Hot Breakfast <i>French Toast w/blueberry sauce, syrup and sausage links</i> <i>Vegetarian: Tofu Scramble with Fruit Cup</i>	Ballroom A
8:00-2:00	Exhibits Courage to Explore & PlaySpace	Ballroom A Meeting Room 7
8:45-9:30	Keynote Presentation: Mirrors, Windows, and Sliding Glass Doors: A Look at Identity <i>Tamara Mouw, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.</i>	Ballroom A
9:30-9:45	Break (no snack)	
9:45-11:00 Breakout Sessions	Teaching Play: Strategies for Teaching Play when Play Doesn't Come Naturally <i>Heather Luecke, School District of Waukesha</i>	Meeting Room 1
	Building Reflective and Supportive Communities to Support your Youngest Learners <i>Jenny Durand, WI Alliance for Infant Mental Health</i>	Meeting Room 2
	Early Learning in the Digital Age <i>Janice Mertes & Chad Kliefoth, WI Department of Public Instruction</i>	Meeting Room 3
	Our Journey with PTR-YC <i>Jennifer Willoughby, School District of Superior</i>	Meeting Room 4
	The Power of PLAY in a 4K/5K Looping Classroom <i>Cathy Boldger, Walworth Joint School District #1</i>	Meeting Room 5A
	New Approaches to Math in a 4K Program <i>Pam Kugi & Sarah Hapeman, Sheboygan Areas School District-Early Learning Center</i>	Meeting Room 5B
	All Students Socially and Emotionally Competent: Supporting Development Through Play **Double Session <i>Amy Alt, WI Department of Children and Families</i>	Meeting Room 6AB

<i>Time</i>	<i>Thursday, March 5, 2020</i>	<i>Location</i>
11:00-11:15	Break (snack-pretzels, chocolate and soda)	
11:15-12:30 Regional Networking Meetings	Northeastern Region <i>Tiffany Swain, CESA 5</i>	Ballroom A
	Western Region <i>Joanna Lickel, CESA 5</i>	Meeting Room 1
	Northern Region <i>Jess Nichols, DPI</i>	Meeting Room 3
	Southern Region <i>Sherry Stuart, DCF, Sherry W. Kimball, DPI</i>	Meeting Room 5AB
	Southeastern Region <i>Nicole Aldworth, CESA 2</i>	Meeting Room 6AB
12:30-1:30	Lunch <i>Smoked Turkey Sandwich, Cheddar Cheese, Lettuce & Tomato, Soup and Chips</i> <i>Vegetarian: Grilled Vegetable Wrap & Soup</i>	Ballroom A
1:30-2:45 Breakout Sessions	Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) Toolbox or Young Children Promoting Social Emotional Competence for Our Youngest Learners <i>Jen Kalis & Michelle Powell, La Crosse Schools</i>	Meeting Room 1
	The Importance of Play in 4K: Using the ECERS-3 to Boost Play-Based Learning Environments <i>Sherry Stuart, WI Department of Children and Families</i> <i>Jenny Sweeney, 4-C Madison</i>	Meeting Room 2
	Mathematize Your Class: A Collaborative Research and Professional Learning Series <i>Kathryn Boonstra, Center for Research on Early Childhood Education & Madison Education Partnership</i>	Meeting Room 3
	Connecting With Families through School-to-Home Nature Activities <i>Nicole Filizetti, LEAF/Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education</i>	Meeting Room 4
	Meaningful Play: Look at Me Learning! <i>Terryl Wheelock, 4C For Children</i>	Meeting Room 5AB
	All Students Socially and Emotionally Competent: Supporting Development Through Play **Double Session <i>Amy Alt, WI Department of Children and Families</i>	Meeting Room 6AB

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Session Descriptions

Keynote Presentation :

For the Love of Children! Why Adult Development Matters

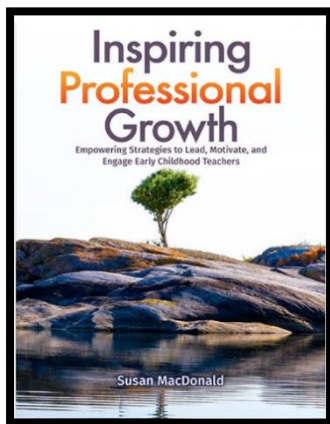
Susan MacDonald, MEd.

9:15-10:45

Ballroom A

Positive strength-based energy is the key to transforming the quality of educational programs. Discover the benefits of creating a vibrant, and engaging growth culture in which all children and adults thrive. We will explore well-researched strategies to inspire and motivate individuals to be fully engaged in their professional growth.

During this powerful presentation, Susan will give you an exclusive peek into her newest book - ***Inspiring Professional Growth***, and teach you innovative ways to:



- Be deliberate and intentional in establishing a growth culture that is equitable to all members of the learning community
- Use strength-based strategies to support ongoing professional growth
- Build collaboration among even the most challenging individuals and teams
- Create impactful and achievable goals to facilitate professional accountability and sustainable change

You will leave this presentation energized with new strategies, easy to use tips, reflective exercises, and resources to start making positive changes!

Wisconsin Core Competency: Professionalism, Planning, Reflection, and Evaluation

Wednesday Breakout Sessions: 12:30-1:45

Keynote Follow-up: BUILDING POSITIVE STRENGTH-BASED TEAMS

Susan MacDonald, MEd. [*Inspiring New Perspectives*](#)

Ballroom A

Children thrive in environments where the adults model positive relationships and create communities based on trust and respect. In this workshop, we will examine the impact that toxic stress in a classroom has on young children's brain development and social-emotional skills. We will explore strategies for enhancing your professional skills to help you communicate effectively with your co-workers, as well as techniques to reduce gossip. We will use the NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct as a guide to creating strength-based team relationships and a positive, supportive, respectful environment for children and adults.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Child Development, Professionalism

Articulating DAP Beyond a Handout

Lisa Jones, Early Childhood Trainer, 4C-Madison

Meeting Room 1

Participants will dig deep into what the meaning of DAP is for them and their program. Professionals freely use the acronym DAP but what do those three letters mean and what does that look like in a quality childcare environment. This workshop will use small group activities to give providers time to reflect with each other on this fascinating and though provoking topic.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Family and Community Relationships

Creating a Transformational Partnership Between a Wisconsin School District and a Theoretically-Based Early Childhood Curriculum: Implementation, Collaboration, and Data-Driven Decision Making

Leslie Pekarek, Gillett School District

Meeting Room 2

A Wisconsin district invested in a multiyear approach to instructional change and is utilizing a theoretically unified approach with embedded self-regulation skills with a scaffolded approach to teaching and learning. Using this example, presenters discuss how this theoretical approach is implemented in a school district through a combination of ongoing professional development, building capacity, and collaboration. Presenters will explain the theoretical foundations of the curriculum and how theory was embedded in all classroom activities, is changing teacher practices, and has led to dramatically improved child outcomes. Participants will leave knowing how to support change in their program and common challenges they could anticipate and ways to address those with all stakeholders. Understanding how to implement a research-based curriculum will help participants reflect on professional development plans and vision for growth within their district.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Learning Experiences, Strategies, and Curriculum

Wednesday Breakout Sessions: 12:30-1:45

Cultural Humility as a Path to Equity

Jenna Finley, Professional Development Coordinator, The Registry

Meeting Room 3

This workshop will provide providers, educators, and facilitators with a sample of how to practice the Cultural Humility approach in their work as a path to equity.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Diversity

Learning Continues at Home: Building Partnerships with Families

Bev Schumacher, CEO Learning Props

Meeting Room 4

Yes!!! Parents are children's primary and most important educators. The Home-School partnership is a complex relationship that includes communication and strategies inviting families to participate. We will look at: best practices in place, research supporting the critical link between families and programs and consider program steps to support families as they engage their child in learning at home experiences. Family engagement is embraced as a critical link for early learning yet it often falls short of being among the highest priority items in our focus.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Family and Community Relationships (COM)

You Gotta Have Friends: Using Peer Mediated Strategies to Support the Development of Friendship

Julie Betchkal, Wisconsin Alliance for Infant Mental Health; Carissa Kusilek, OT for Baldwin-Woodville School District

Meeting Room 5AB

Research suggests that early friendships are powerful predictors of school “adjustment” and adult well-being. Adults can provide the context and support for friendships to blossom. This session will outline key friendship skills to target through intentional instruction, and overview using peer mediated strategies to ensure that all children have opportunities to learn and practice friendship. Examples from a play-based 4K,5K and 1st grade Play Lab model using Stay, Play and Talk time will be shared. Free resources will be highlighted that assist programs in creating their own friendship building opportunities.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Special Needs, Disabilities, and Inclusive Practices

Wednesday Breakout Sessions: 12:30-1:45

Play Based Learning Approaches

Katie Robertson, West Allis School District

Meeting 6AB

This presentation supports the development and growth of play based learning in our 4K and 4K/5K combination classrooms. It aims to provide professional theory, research and positive practice around using play as a means for learning throughout the early childhood day. Focused on the use of language development and play to develop young students as learners, this is a great session for teachers, directors, principals and coordinators interested in supporting play and learning in the 4K-5K classrooms.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Learning Experiences, Strategies, and Curriculum

Wednesday Caucus Connections: 2:00-3:15

This session is designed to provide keynote session application opportunities for people with like roles and responsibilities, specifically around key state initiatives/priorities: The Preschool Development Grant and the WI Department of Instruction's Five Priority Areas. Each of the caucus groups will be facilitated to assist the groups in sharing of ideas and networking. The session will offer flexibility to identify topics of small group discussion based upon participant needs. ***Note: Participants have the option of attending any of the caucus sessions-it is not required to attend the caucus that most aligns/identifies with a current identified role***.

Technical Assistance (Consultants, Coaches, State Personnel)

Meeting Room 1

Teachers (Child Care, Head Start, 4K-First Grade+)

Ballroom A

Special Education and Associated Professionals

Meeting Room 5AB

Administrators (Coordinators, Directors, Principals, +)

Meeting Room 6AB

Wisconsin Core Competency: Professionalism



Wednesday Breakout Sessions: 3:30-4:45

Universal Design for Learning in Early Childhood Settings

Sue Erickson, EC PST, CESA 12; Catherine Daentl, EC PSTCESA 5

Meeting Room 1

What does UDL look like in Early Childhood? Come join this universally designed session that will use the Teaching Cycle to provide the framework for how even the youngest students can become expert learners. In this session, participants will gain an understanding of how the UDL principles are naturally aligned with high-quality early learning environments.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Learning Experiences, Strategies, and Curriculum

Unlock the Mystery of Registry Training and Training Approval

Christine Moldenhauer, Director of Operations, The Registry

Meeting Room 2

Are you a 4K community partner? Come unravel the mystery of Registry Trainer approval and explore how you can play a role in professional development at your program or organization. Learn about the process of course and event approval to have training approved and continuing education documented in The Registry. Discover what it is to be a training sponsor organization in Wisconsin and the important part your program or organization can play in supporting early childhood educators and their professional development.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Professionalism

Science: It's All About the Wondering!

Dr. Jennifer Koel, Waukesha County Technical College

Meeting Room 3

Take a deep dive into how to cultivate an environment that allows each child to uniquely explore, discover and grow to their fullest potential. You'll learn how to foster an environment that builds "classroom community" through promoting relationships and embracing socioemotional development. With the use of pictures and discussions, you'll see firsthand how to create engaging, hands-on, explorative environments based on the interests of the children. You'll leave with reflective thoughts on how to refine your own classroom so that wonder and curiosity is at the forefront for not only the children, but for you as an educator, as well.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Learning Experiences, Strategies, and Curriculum

Wednesday Breakout Sessions: 3:30-4:45

Trauma Informed Practices: Fostering a Child's Resilience Through Proactive Approaches

Sara Jane Lee, 4K Coordinator and NVCI Coordinator, Stoughton Area School District

Meeting Room 4

This workshop will provide an overview of the impact of trauma on child development and explore what we as educators, parents and providers can do to foster resilience through proactive approaches. You will learn proactive strategies to help kids stay in the adaptive stage. You will learn about co-regulation and how to support children, learn how to provide opportunities for self-regulation and gain strategies to build positive relational support with staff, parents and children. Session outcomes include: A description of problem behaviors, antecedents-external/internal, underlying skill deficits, positive behavior supports, dimensions of communication, and how to develop positive support plans. You will gain a better understanding of trauma informed practices and learn about the three pillars of trauma-Safety, Regulation and Relationships. You will learn about proactive versus reactive behavior strategies such as Time-In, how to adapt your learning environment, learn additional transition tips and more!

Wisconsin Core Competency: Special Needs, Disabilities, and Inclusive Practices

Stepping Back: Using Video and Photos to Document Children's Learning

Carol Spoehr, One City Schools

The presentation will look at the Anji Play practice of a teacher stepping back and deeply observing children's play through taking video and photos. Using a video reflection protocol to reflect on the children's play captured. By using this protocol a teacher is able view the video focusing on different frameworks. The frameworks are chosen by the teacher or group of teachers viewing the videos. The framework can focus on aspects of learning such as: social, physical, cognitive, language. This protocol can be used to reflect on other elements that effect children's learning such: room set up, the materials available, or how particular materials are being used. It also can be used by teacher to reflect on their own practice.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Observation, Screening, and Assessment (OSA)

Supporting Families with Intention: Using the PIWI Model to Promote Positive Relationships

*Amber Carlsrud, Stevens Point Area School District;
Julie Betchkal, Wisconsin Alliance for Infant Mental Health*

Meeting Room 5B

This session will showcase the use of the PIWI (Parents Interacting with Intentionality) Model to design engaging family/child activities that enhance observation and responsiveness to promote children's development. The PIWI model utilizes intentional planning of activities and specific coaching strategies by facilitators. Real world examples and resources will be provided.

Participants will have the opportunity to plan for using PIWI thinking within their own family outreach.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Family Systems and Dynamics

Play-Based Kindergarten

Sherry Stanczyk, Sara Fischer, and Karen Salienko, Stevens Point Area School District

Meeting Room 6AB

The Steven's Point Area Public School District has two play-based kindergarten pilots running. Join this session to learn more about the district's journey, intentional planning and play-based learning. Participants will engage in discussion, information sharing, and reflection on video clips of the pilot programs. Tools and resource related to play-based learning will be shared.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Learning Experiences, Strategies, and Curriculum

Wednesday Topical Tapas: 4:45-5:45

Join your fellow colleagues for informal networking, conversations and discussions focused around the sessions of the day and the topics listed below. Tapas will be provided for a light snack. Participants can feel free to bring their own beverages. The Hotel Pub is located near the Atrium.

Hotel Atrium

Topics:

*Family Involvement
Assessment
DAP from birth-K5!
Outdoor education
Social-Emotional Learning
Equitable & Inclusive Education
Practice-Based Coaching
WECCP Northwest Region
WECCP Northeast Region
WECCP Southern Region*



Wisconsin Early Childhood
Collaborating Partners

Thursday, March 5, 2020

Session Descriptions

Keynote Presentation:

Mirrors, Windows, and Sliding Glass Doors: A Look at Identity

Tamara Mouw Director of Teaching and Learning

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

8:45-9:30

Ballroom A

It has been thirty years since Rudine Sims Bishop wrote her seminal essay “Mirrors, Windows, and Sliding Glass Doors,” which spoke to the lack of children’s books with African American characters and themes. Three decades later, those questions of whose stories get told and by and to whom have not gone away. Ensuring that students have representative texts and materials is only one component of affirming students’ identity. This idea of identity — an understanding of who we are and who we are not — is a complex, multifaceted process that begins in childhood and continues throughout life. As educators, we must first examine our own identity in order to be able to understand and appreciate the identities of our students, families, colleagues, and communities.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Planning, Reflection and Evaluation



Thursday Breakout Sessions: 9:45-11:00

Teaching Play: Strategies for Teaching Play when Play Doesn't Come Naturally

*Heather Luecke, Early Childhood Special Education Teacher, School District of Waukesha
Ellen Kassel, Occupational Therapist, School District of Waukesha*

Meeting Room 1

For some children, especially those with Autism Spectrum Disorder, play can seem abstract and something that is avoided. Play, however, is key to learning a variety preschool concepts and may need to be intentionally taught. In this presentation, the presenter will showcase a multi-step technique to teaching toys and imaginative play in the Early Childhood Classroom. This multi-step technique has been used in the presenter's classroom to introduce and teach toys and imaginative and integrate them into options for free play during the preschool day.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Special Needs, Disabilities, and Inclusive Practices

Building Reflective and Supportive Communities to Support your Youngest Learners

Jenny Durand, Professional Development Coordinator, WI Alliance for Infant Mental Health

Meeting Room 2

Young children develop and thrive within the context of healthy and supportive relationships. Utilizing Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health practices, professionals working with young children and their families can build reflective and supportive community relationships to support our youngest learners. Participants will explore the value of reflective supervision, understanding biases, and a community wide approach to thinking about quality care and support for children, families, and the professionals who work with them. Key components to building community systems of support and current community stories will be shared.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Family and Community Relationships

Early Learning in the Digital Age

Janice Mertes, Assistant Director Teaching and Learning-Digital Learning & Chad Kliefoth, Digital Learning Consultant, WI Department of Public Instruction

Meeting Room 3

Come engage in the latest research and DPI resources around best practices for early learners and families in the digital age. Tools and resources from Wisconsin partners will be launched to help support family engagement strategies and instructional practices to support developmentally appropriate learning.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Child Development

Thursday Breakout Sessions: 9:45-11:00

Our Journey with PTR-YC

Jennifer Willoughby, School District of Superior

Meeting Room 4

Come hear about our journey and lessons learned in Superior, WI during our first year of using PTR-YC: Prevent, Teach, Reinforce for Young Children. PTR-YC is a systematic data-driven process for RtI in preschool.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Learning Experiences, Strategies and Curriculum

The Power of PLAY in a 4K/5K Looping Classroom

Cathy Boldger, Walworth Joint School District #1

Meeting Room 5A

Early childhood educators continue to seek answers and solutions in promoting "best practice" while facing the demands of testing in classrooms. The emphasis on direct instruction and scripted curriculum versus play, is a reality for many as well. This presentation will address how to effectively document student progress while making learning standards "come alive". Explicit teaching strategies supporting the fact that children are capable of their own learning will be shared. Classroom set up is essential as the environment is "the third teacher" when providing provocations and invitations to play. Many examples will be presented that span the curriculum of a 4K/5K classroom along with concrete examples of assessments and documentation of children's learning. Participants are welcome to bring their cameras to capture ideas that can be utilized in their classrooms immediately.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Child Development

New Approaches to Math in a 4K Program

Pam Kugi, Principal & Sarah Hapeman, Interventionist/Instructional Coach, Sheboygan Areas School District-Early Learning Center

Meeting Room 5B

Introducing important math concepts in preschool is essential to creating mathematically proficient students. In this session, participants will learn how to develop young children's understandings in math: number sense, problem solving, counting, and mathematical thinking. Teachers will explore how to incorporate approaches that encourage flexible thinking that result in students who solve problems efficiently, fluently and accurately. Participants will learn how to employ systematic strategies that enhance core instruction using interactive and playful methods. By providing opportunities for shared thinking and problem solving, students enter kindergarten with a wide range of mathematical experiences and proficiency in number sense.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Learning Experiences, Strategies and Curriculum

All Students Socially and Emotionally Competent: Supporting Development Through Play **Double Session

Amy Alt, Program and Policy Analyst, WI Department of Children and Families

Meeting Room 6AB

During this presentation, participants will consider how to teach children social and emotional skills needed for success in school and throughout life, while using intentionally planned environments that support developmentally appropriate play. We will discuss: the WMELS continuum of social and emotional development, the impact each of us has on children, families, and communities, how to provide an environment offering a variety of approaches to teaching and learning, strategies to support all students in their development of social and emotional skills, while working together to think through barriers to supporting students in the most developmentally appropriate ways.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Learning Experiences, Strategies and Curriculum

Thursday Regional Networking Sessions: 11:15-12:30

An interactive session for regional cross-sector partners to hear statewide updates, make connections, discuss successes and challenges in the field of early childhood education and engage in shared learning opportunities, specifically around educational equity.

Northeastern Region
Tiffany Swain, CESA 5

Ballroom A

Western Region
Joanna Lickel, CESA 5

Meeting Room 1

Northern Region
Jess Nichols, CESA 5

Meeting Room 3

Southern Region
Sherrie Stuart, DCF, Sherry W. Kimball, DPI

Meeting Room 5AB

Southeastern Region
Nicole Aldworth, CESA 2

Meeting Room 6AB

Wisconsin Core Competency: Professionalism

Thursday Breakout Sessions: 1:30-2:45

Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) Toolbox or Young Children Promoting Social Emotional Competence for Our Youngest Learners

Jen Kalis ECSE/4K Program Support Coordinator & Michelle Powell, La Crosse Schools

Meeting Room 1

What's in your SEL toolbox? Early educators build skills for supporting nurturing and responsive caregiving, create learning environments, provide targeted social-emotional skills, and support children with challenging behavior. Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) skill can be promoted and intentionally taught in a variety of evidence-based ways. The WI Pyramid Model and social-emotional resources will be shared. A "grab & go" SEL toolbox that addresses the core competencies will be showcased.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Learning Experiences, Strategies and Curriculum

The Importance of Play in 4K: Using the ECERS-3 to Boost Play-Based Learning Environments

Sherry Stuart, Program and Policy Analyst-Advanced, WI Department of Children and Families

Jenny Sweeney, Early Childhood Specialist, 4-C Madison

Meeting Room 2

The presentation will discuss how play is integrated throughout the ECERS-3 subscales in supporting the development of high-quality 4K environments in some of Wisconsin's Southern region 4K classrooms. The presentation will provide an overview of the ECERS-3 subscales components related to quality play environments while infusing collected data from a sample of 4K programs (non-identified) in the Southern region. ECERS-3 evaluations are requested by school districts for specific feedback to improve environments for children in 4K classrooms and are not used for rating purposes. Time will be given for questions, reflection, and feedback throughout the presentation.

Wisconsin Core Competency: Planning, Reflection, and Evaluation

Mathematize Your Class: A Collaborative Research and Professional Learning Series

Kathryn Boonstra, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Center for Research on Early Childhood Education & Madison Education Partnership

Meeting Room 3

Participants will learn about the goals, structure, and findings of a unique research and professional development initiative developed by the Madison Education Partnership and the Center for Research on Early Childhood Education, which aims to enhance mathematics teaching and improve instructional support strategies across content areas in four-year-old kindergarten. Participate in group discussion and brainstorming around strategies for improving mathematics teaching and instructional support strategies through classroom practice, ongoing professional

learning, and school and district supports, and have opportunities to explore resources and reflect on next steps

Wisconsin Core Competency: Learning Experiences, Strategies and Curriculum

Connecting With Families through School-to-Home Nature Activities

Nicole Filizetti, LEAF Outreach Educator, LEAF/Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education

Meeting Room 4

Project Learning Tree's "Environmental Experiences for Early Childhood" curriculum provides fun opportunities for school-to-home connections through its Family and Friends/Familia y amigos pages. This session will explore three of PLT's nature-based activity groupings, and then look at the Family and Friends resources that accompany them. Using this resource, early childhood educators can help build partnerships with families by giving them easy-to-use ideas for continuing classroom themes at home. Family and Friends/Familia y amigos activities also help families become comfortable engaging in outdoor exploration and nature play with their young children. Handouts from Project Learning Tree and resources from the Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education will be provided

Wisconsin Core Competency: Family Systems and Dynamics

Meaningful Play: Look at Me Learning!

Terryl Wheelock, Project Coordinator, 4C For Children

Meeting Room 5AB

Can children learn through play? Of course! The challenge is in guiding specific learning in play. This session will explore ways to target specific learning in play and connect outcomes to a 'natural' style of learning. The Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards (WMELS) will be used as a guide for identifying outcomes. The WMELS Guiding Principles will be used to frame application. Participants will leave with a refreshed perspective on playful learning. Join us for this reflective and interactive session!

Wisconsin Core Competency: Learning Experiences, Strategies and Curriculum

All Students Socially and Emotionally Competent: Supporting Development Through Play **Double Session

Amy Alt, Program and Policy Analyst, WI Department of Children and Families

Meeting Room 6AB

Participants will consider how to teach children social and emotional skills needed for success in school and throughout life, using intentionally planned environments that support developmentally appropriate play. We will discuss: the WMELS continuum of social and emotional development, the impact we have on children, families, and communities, how to provide an environment offering a variety of approaches to teaching and learning, strategies to support all students in their development of social and emotional skills, while working together to support students in the most developmentally appropriate ways. *Wisconsin Core Competency: Learning Experiences, Strategies and Curriculum*



Promoting Early Childhood

Exhibitor Information

Ballroom A

Opens-Wednesday, March 4 at Noon

Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education/Project
Learning Tree

Wisconsin Early Childhood Association (WECA)

Early Childhood Program Support and Leadership

Wisconsin Division of Early Childhood

Supporting Families Together Association

The Registry

CESA 5

Wisconsin Alliance for Infant Mental Health

WCCAA - Wisconsin Child Care Administrators
Association

Courage to Explore
Meeting Room 7
Opens-Wednesday March 4 at Noon

An interactive display that allows participants to delve into the topics of Culture, Anti-Bias and Peace in a safe environment. It is designed for gathering ideas, and incorporating the concepts of diversity, culture and peace among others into early education programs. Books, toys, and musical instruments are featured as well as resources for teachers and parents. Teachers, administrator, children and families are welcome in the space to explore, learn how to find these types of resources, or just take a few moments to travel around the world of culture.

PlaySpace
Meeting Room 7
Opens-Wednesday March 5 at Noon

An interactive display promoting the importance of play. Conference attendees will engage in seven distinct play themes. Each area will have materials for attendees to engage with descriptions on how the concepts can be incorporated into their own classrooms and programs.

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING PEC 2020
SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!